

Senate Resolution 1309

By: Senators Chance of the 16th and Rogers of the 21st

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Oakland Raiders owner Mr. Allen "Al" Davis; and for other
2 purposes

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Allen "Al" Davis has long been recognized for the vital role he has played
4 in leadership and has earned a well-deserved reputation within the football community as an
5 individual with class and integrity; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis was born on July 4, 1929, in Brockton, Massachusetts, and attended
7 Wittenberg University and Syracuse University, where he earned a degree in English; and

8 WHEREAS, he began his distinguished career coaching football as the line coach for
9 Adelphi College and went on to lead successful teams as head coach of the U.S. Army team
10 at Ft. Belvoir, Virginia, a line coach and chief recruiter for The Citadel, and an offensive end
11 coach at the University of Southern California; and

12 WHEREAS, in 1960, Mr. Davis joined professional football as the offensive end coach for
13 the Los Angeles Chargers, and three years later he became head coach and general manager
14 of the American Football League's Oakland Raiders, transforming it into a winning program
15 with a 10-4 record and earning himself the title of American Football League Coach of the
16 Year; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis spent three seasons as head coach with the Raiders and compiled an
18 impressive record of 23-16-3, before he was named commissioner of the American Football
19 League in 1966, a position which he resigned that same year in protest to the merger of the
20 league with its competitor, the National Football League; and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis brought great pride and poise to the Raiders, demonstrating a
22 commitment to excellence and establishing the team of the decades; and

23 WHEREAS, during his tenure with the Raiders, the team has been one of the most successful
24 in all of professional sports, winning 13 division championships from 1967 to 1985, one
25 American League Football championship, and three Super Bowls; and

26 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis has been recognized with numerous awards during his career,
27 including induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame as a team and league administrator;
28 and

29 WHEREAS, his significant organizational and leadership talents, his remarkable patience
30 and diplomacy, his keen sense of vision, and his business savvy and acumen have earned him
31 the respect and admiration of his coaches, players, and competitors, and it is abundantly
32 fitting and proper that his outstanding accomplishments be appropriately recognized.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
34 commend Mr. Allen "Al" Davis on his outstanding accomplishments and achievements in
35 football and extend their most sincere best wishes for many more successful seasons.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
37 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. Allen "Al" Davis.